

Existing law provides for the powers of investigation of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission and for penalties and liability for violation of its regulations. Prior law further provided that the commission may assess a civil penalty of not less than \$50 nor more than \$500 for violations of the existing law or regulations adopted under it. New law increases civil penalty amounts to not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000.

Prior law provided that the annual registration fees for tanker trucks transporting liquefied petroleum gas shall be \$25 for each truck and that the decal representing such registration shall be affixed to the truck. Prior law also provided that all drivers, mechanics, and transfer service and installation personnel shall take the personal competency test at a fee of \$10 and possess a personal competency card to be renewed annually at a fee of \$5.

New law increases the annual registration fees for tanker trucks from \$25 to \$50, and increases the test fee from \$10 to \$20 and the renewal fee from \$5 to \$10.

Existing law provides that any persons, firms, or corporations who store, sell, or transport any liquefied petroleum gas, must first obtain the required permits and insurance and file a bond before storing, selling, or transporting liquefied petroleum gas, or installing tanks, systems, or appliances for liquefied petroleum gas. Also provides that violators shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall pay a fine of not more than \$500 or be imprisoned for not more than 60 days, or both.

New law deletes reference to the filing of a bond and increases the penalty from not more than \$500 to not more than \$1,000.

Existing law provides that an annual permit fee of not less than \$75 and not more than 4/10 of 1% of the gross annual sales of liquefied petroleum gas shall be paid to the commission. New law provides that the LPGC shall promulgate rules which reduce such permit fees by an amount equal to or exceeding the increase in fees set forth in new law. Provides an effective date of January 1, 2000, for such fee increases and reductions, and adjustments to existing law.

Effective August 15, 1999.

(Amends R.S. 40:1846.1(E)(1), 1849(A), (B), and (C)(1), and 1850; Adds R.S. 40:1849(E))